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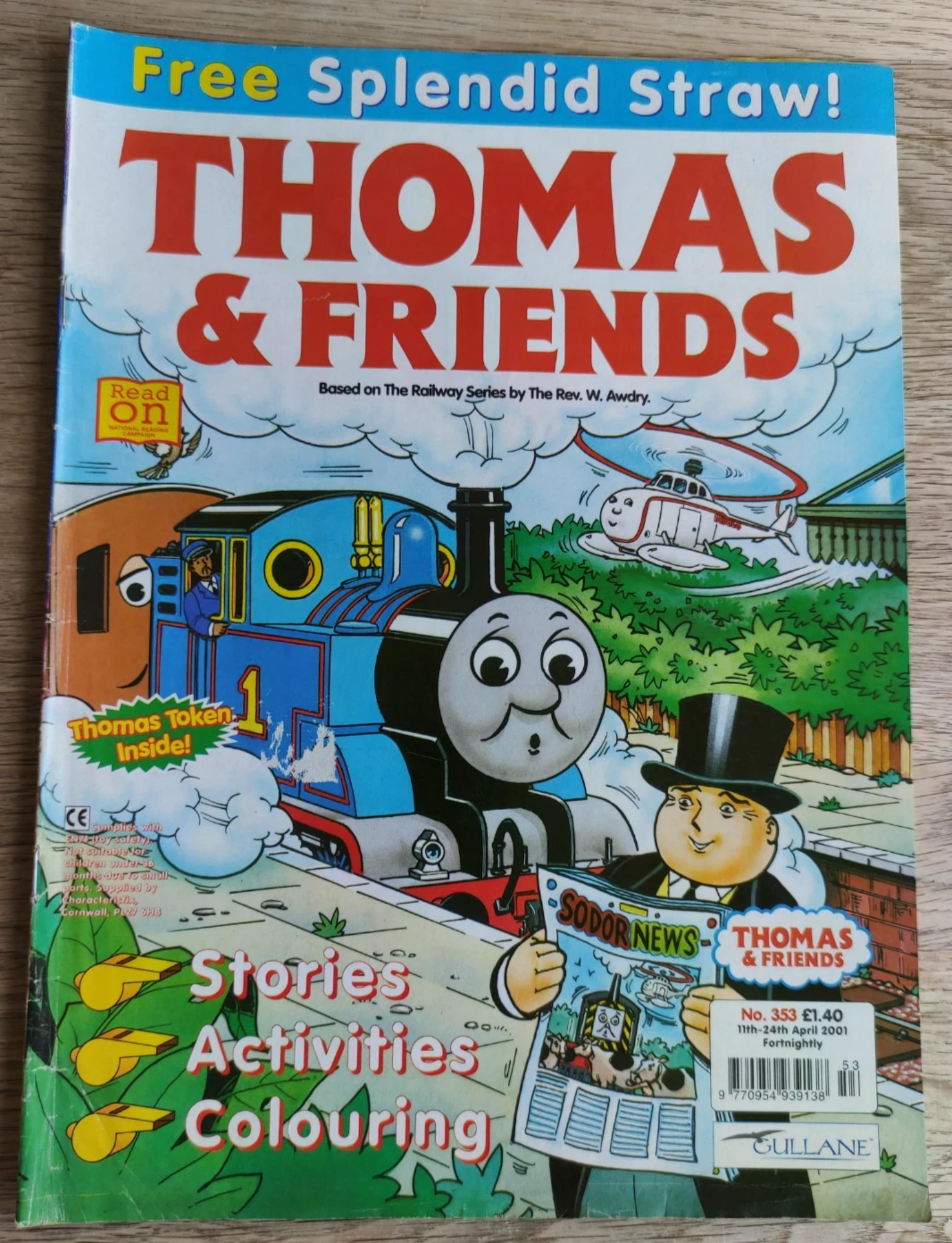

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Stories
Activities
Colouring

No. 353 £1.40
11th-24th April 2001
Fortnightly

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All of the elements in this magazine are based on the findings of academic research.

3. Cowcatchers!
a story to read

8. Look and See!
things to spot in a big picture

10. Changing Rooms
a rebus picture story

12. Colouring Fun
an engine picture for you to colour

14. Story Puzzle
tell the story in the right order

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a picture to pull out and keep

18. Size Wise
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22. All about Duck
facts about the engine

24. Thomas and Bluebird
a bedtime story

28. Sodor Mail
your letters, drawings and photos

30. Dot to Dot!
join the dots to see the picture

ABC

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Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends

A BRITT ALLCROFT COMPANY PRODUCTION

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev W Awdry

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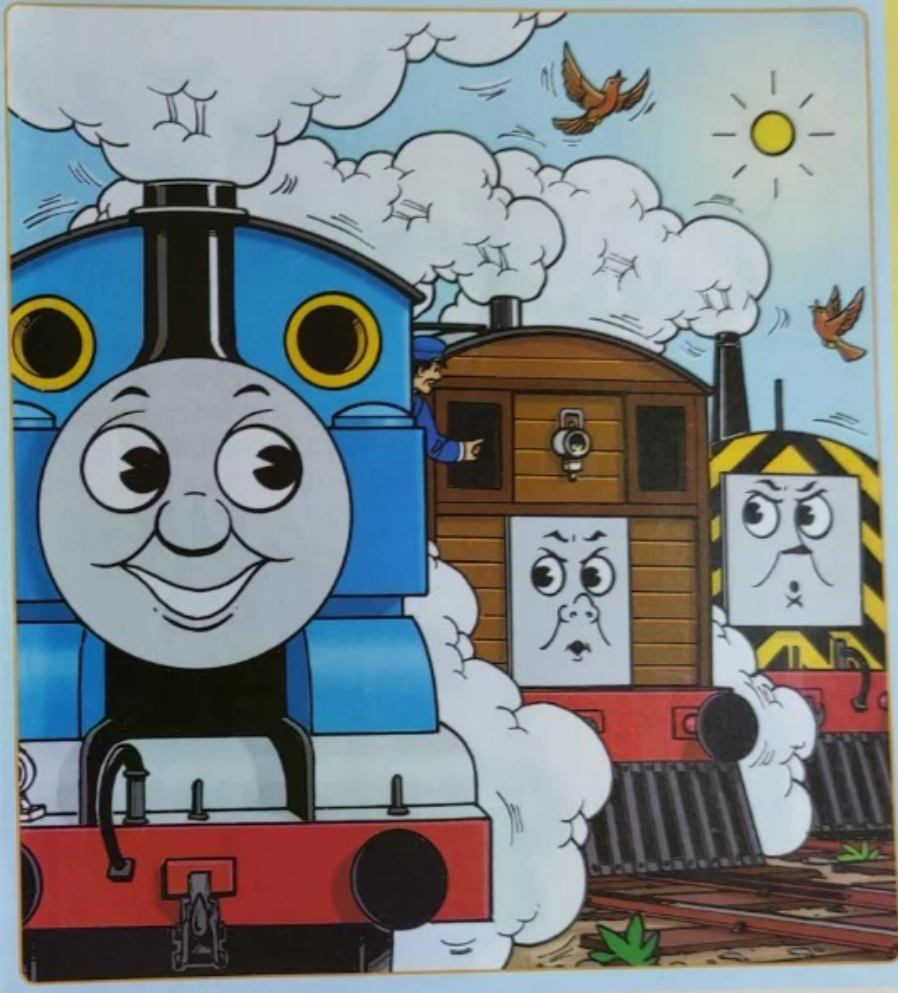
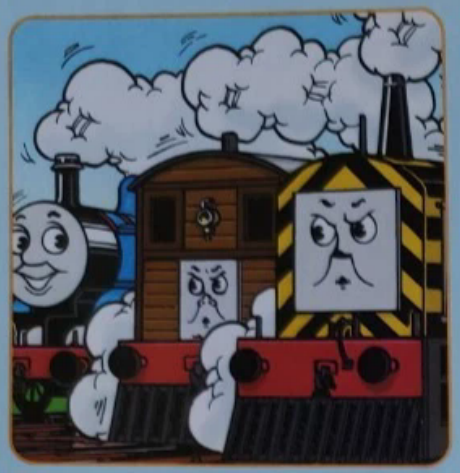
fun to read together

Cowcatchers!

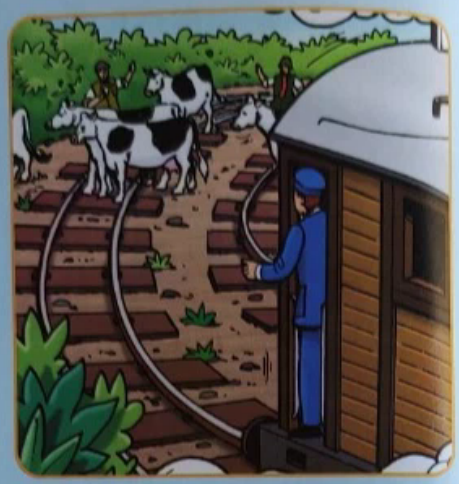


1. One morning, Thomas was very cheeky with Toby and Mavis. "Look at you pair with your cowcatchers," he peeped, "there's nothing fashionable about that!"

2. "It's not a fashion, it's a safety measure!" snapped Toby. But Thomas wasn't listening, "I've never seen either of you catch a cow!" he continued.



3. Toby set off for work with a loud remark to Mavis, "Thomas will never learn!" Thomas shouted, "Cowcatchers my funnel! You couldn't catch a fly with those!"



4. On his way through the hills to the quarry, Toby saw two men struggling to round up some cows. "It's Farmer Collett, what's he doing here?" wondered Toby.

5. Toby slowed down to see what was happening. The farmer explained, "I'm buying these cows from Farmer Banks, but they won't come to my trailer!"

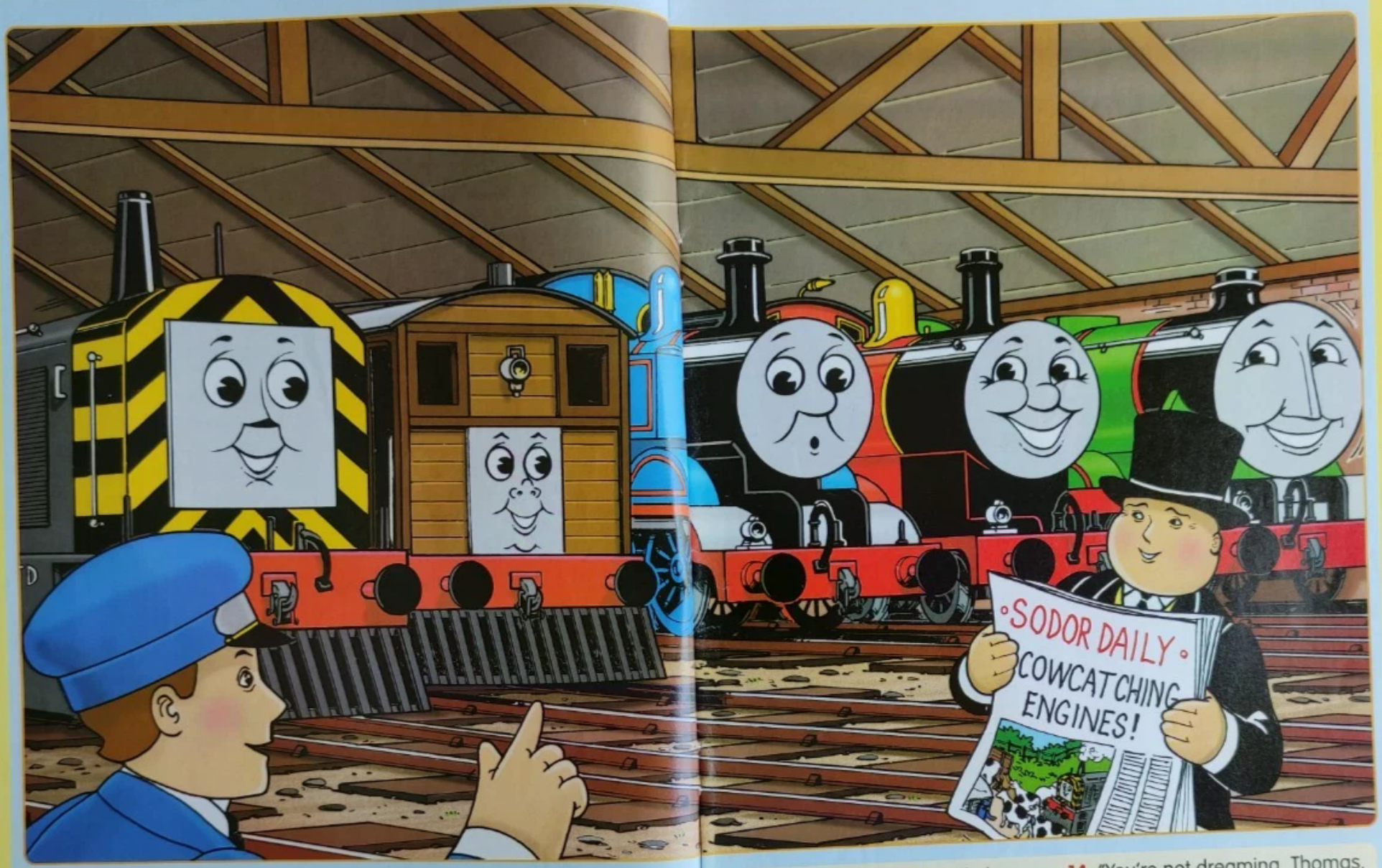
6. Toby had an idea. "Park your tractor and trailer in the siding at the next halt while Farmer Banks drives the cows there to meet us. Mavis will soon come to help!"

7. Toby arrived in the siding, followed by the farmer. "Park your trailer so that it faces the track!" said Toby. While the farmer backed up, Mavis arrived.

8. "Come on, Mavis, let's have that cowcatcher working!" exclaimed Toby. "Just stop on the other side of the trailer. Here come the cows!"

9. Farmer Banks drove the cows between Toby and Mavis and up the ramp into the trailer. "Thomas will never believe we used our cowcatchers!" sighed Mavis.

10. A loud whirring sound filled the air and Harold appeared. "That'll make an interesting photo for the Sodor Daily. Tell us the story!" cried his pilot.



11. Next day, The Fat Controller brought the newspaper to the engine shed and winked to Toby. "What's all this about? The headline says 'Cowcatching Engines'."

12. He read on, "two quarry line engines put their cowcatchers to good use when they helped to round up five disobedient cows. Harold the Helicopter saw all."

13. "Let me see that!" puffed Thomas. He blinked hard at the photo. "Toby and Mavis helped Farmer Collett to catch five cows! I must be dreaming!"

14. "You're not dreaming, Thomas, cowcatchers can be Really Useful!" grinned Toby. Thomas frowned, "Some engines will do anything to get in the papers!"

The End

Look and See!

Toby and Henrietta take the workmen to the quarry every morning.

1. How many workmen can you count?
2. How many trucks can you count?
3. Point to Mavis.
4. How many cranes can you count?

Answers: 1. eight 2. two 3. on the right 4. three

Changing rooms!

rebus story

Trace over the words below. Then read the story, when you see a picture say the word!

The words made into pictures are...

Thomas

crane

bricks

goalposts

boys

socks

shoes

shirt

trousers

sink

shower

toilet

had some building supplies to deliver. He steamed into Tidmouth and passed the park. "What are all those clothes doing there?" he peeped. Driver explained, "The have changed into their football kits, so they've each left a , some , and behind the ."

In Tidmouth goods yard, the unloading began. "That's right,

and timber for the 'Tidmouth Town Football Club,' please!" called the driver.

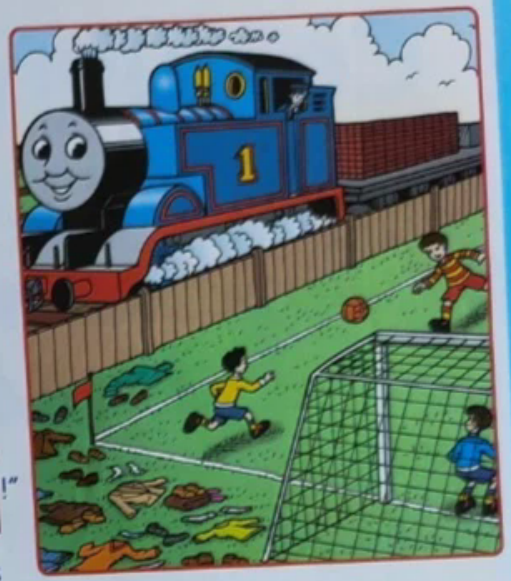
watched the unloading with interest.

" , and !" he puffed. "The football club is having a new changing room built!" replied the driver.

steamed crossly, "The in the park need a changing room!"

The driver agreed, "I'll have a word with the builders!"

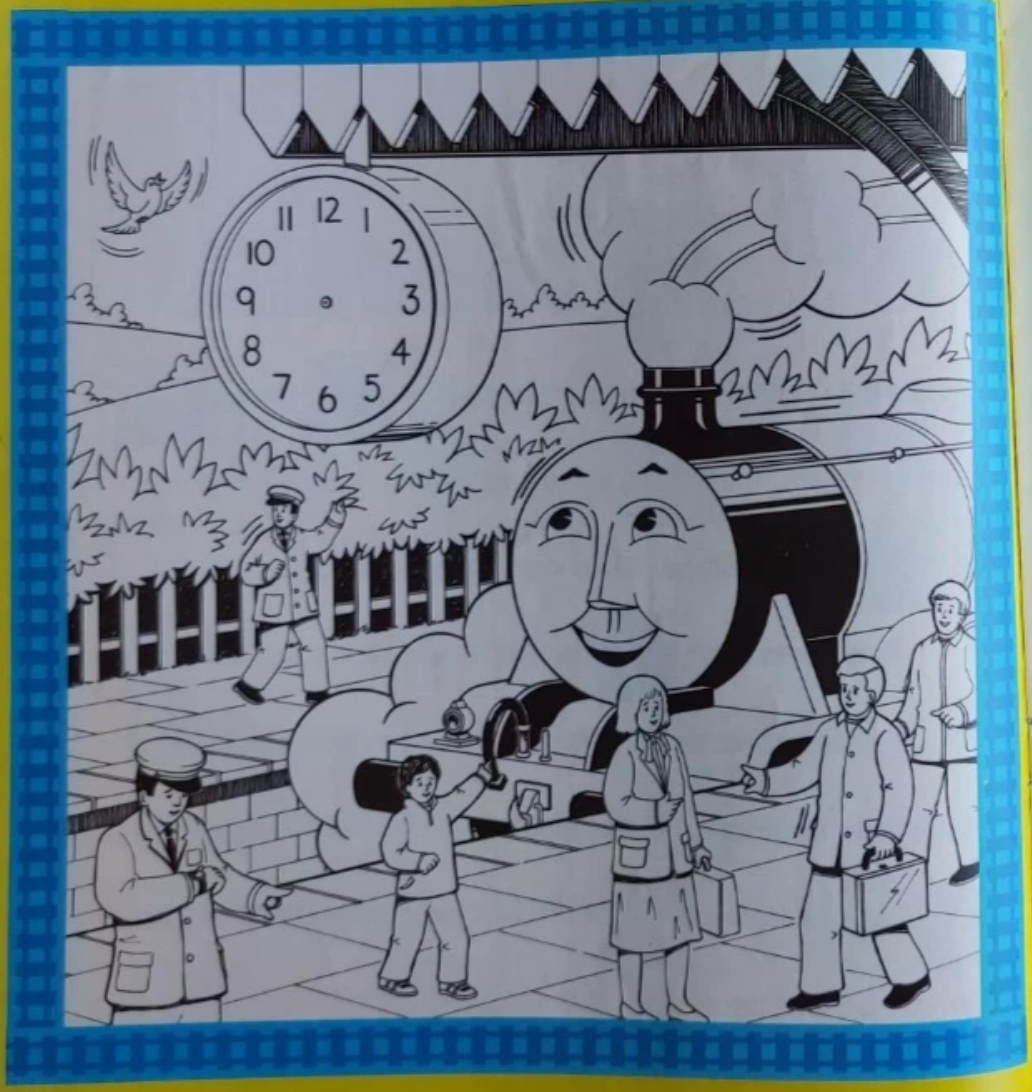
Two weeks later, noticed a new changing room in the park. "The builders had some things left over from their job at the football club. They built us a changing room, which even has a !" shouted a boy in his football kit. Driver grinned, "Who gave them that brilliant idea!" chuffed off feeling like a Really Useful Engine.



The End

Colouring Fun

Use your crayons to colour this picture of Gordon!
What time do you think it is?
Draw hands on the clock to show the time.



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Please note: Some of the above railway telephone numbers may be a talking timetable or may require you to leave a message.

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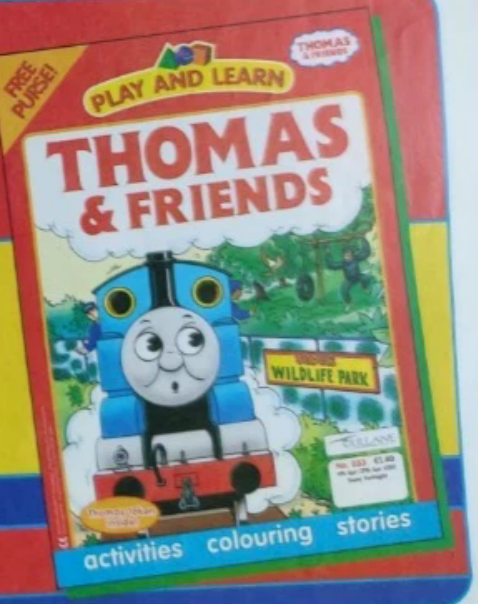


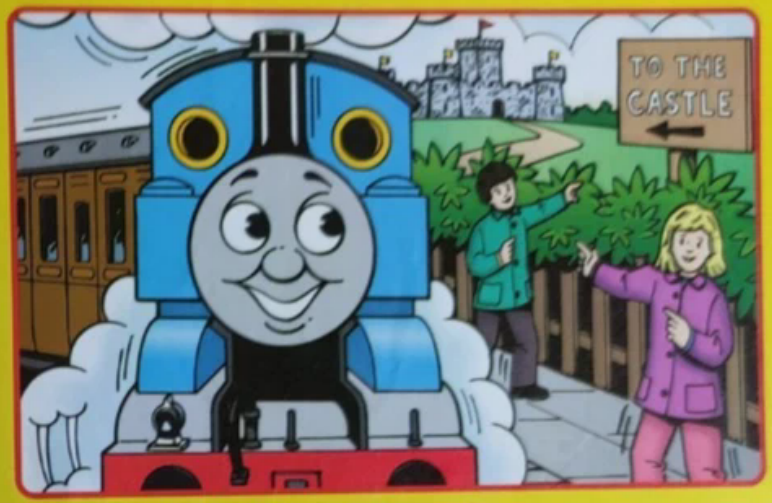
Story puzzle

This story is all mixed-up! Write the numbers of these pictures below to show which order they should go in.

1

The children climbed back on board with their Easter eggs.

2



Thomas took the children to the castle.

3

The great egg hunt began.

The right order is ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

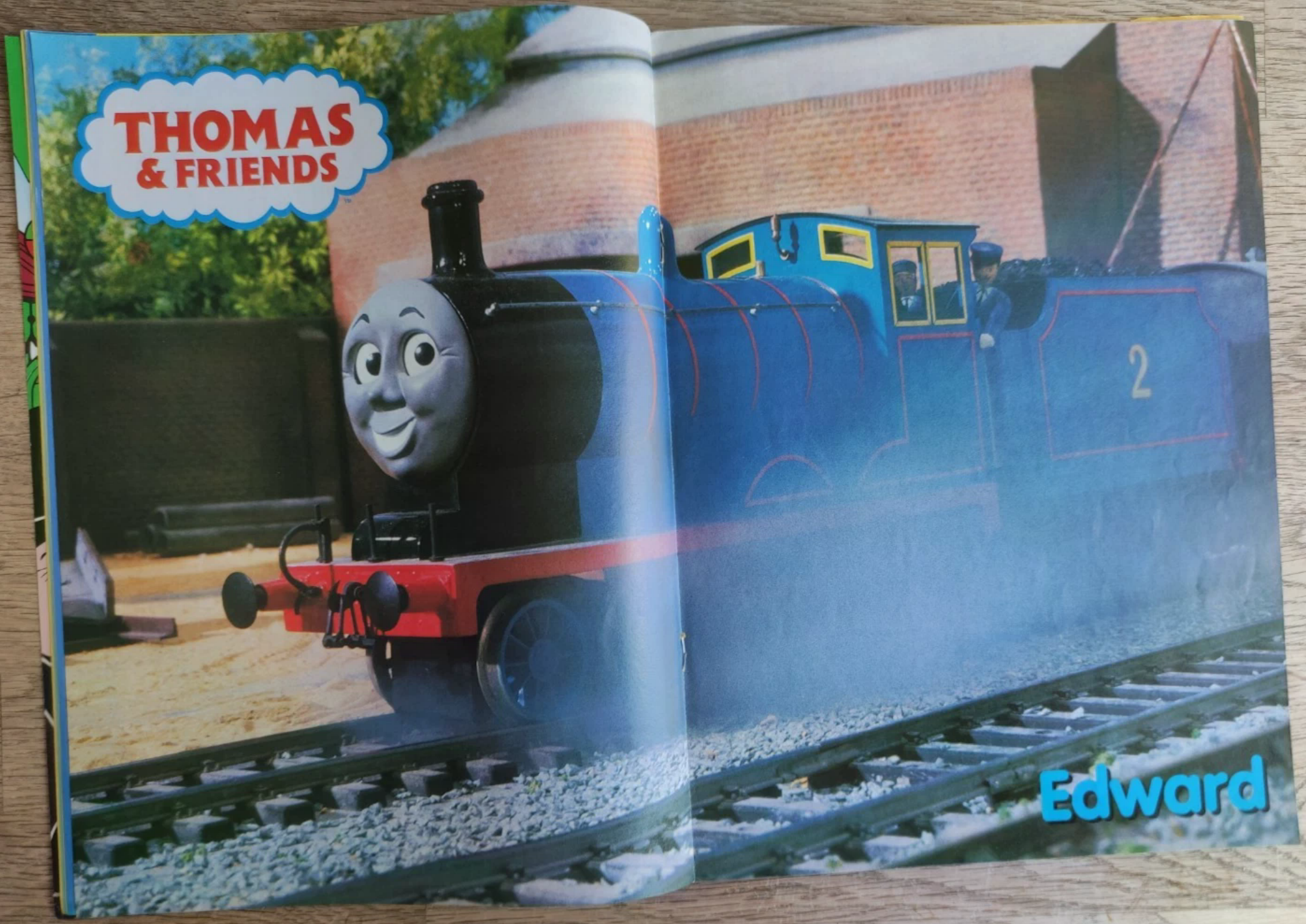
Answer: 4,2,3,1

4

At the main station, the children climbed on board Thomas.

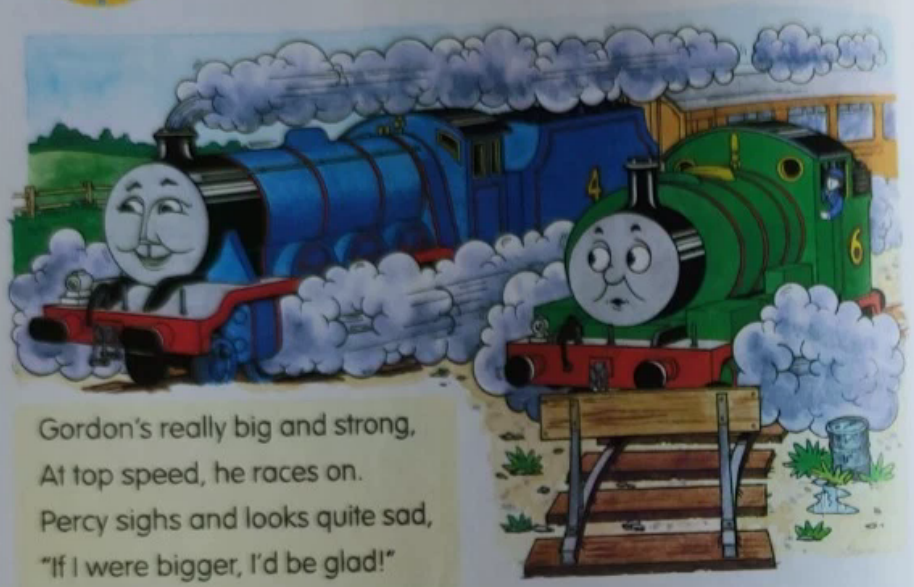
How many Easter eggs can you count?

Answer: Seven

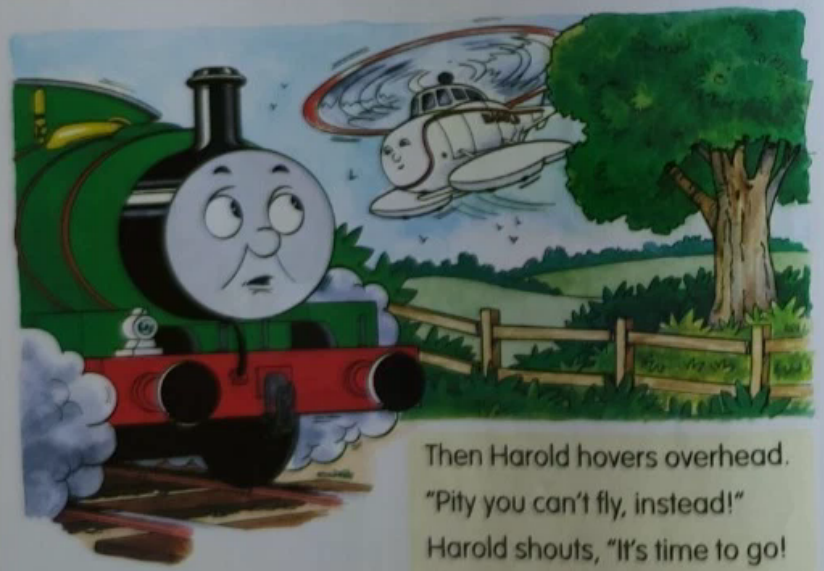

THOMAS
& FRIENDS
2
Edward

Thomas rhyme time

Size Wise!

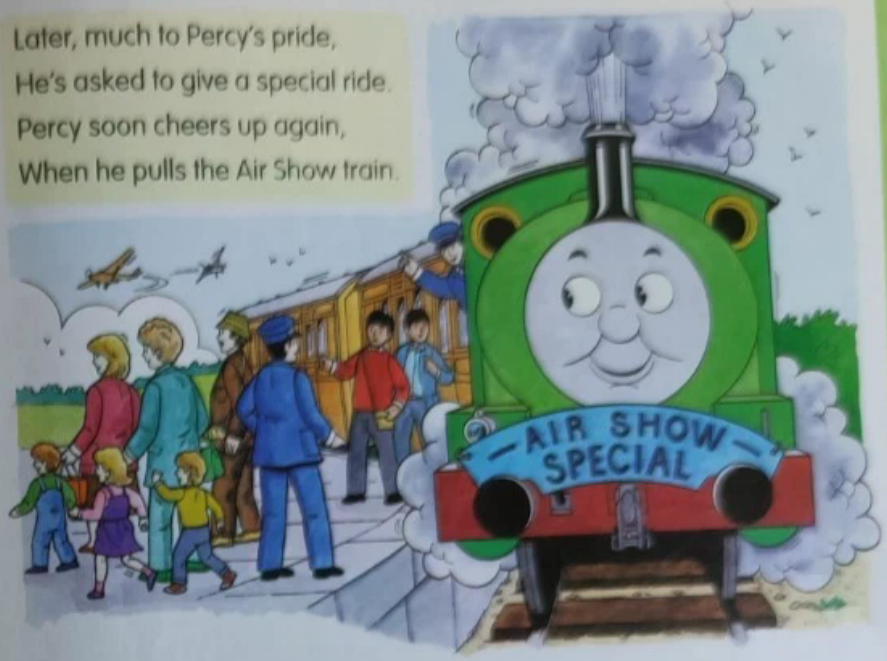


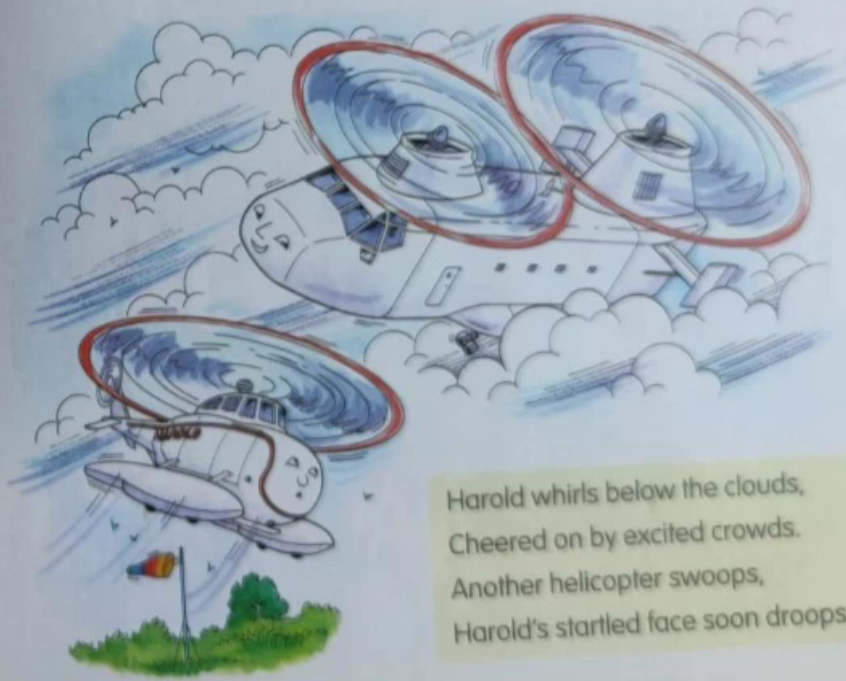
Gordon's really big and strong,
At top speed, he races on.
Percy sighs and looks quite sad,
"If I were bigger, I'd be glad!"



Then Harold hovers overhead.
"Pity you can't fly, instead!"
Harold shouts, "It's time to go!
I'm opening a grand Air Show!"

Later, much to Percy's pride,
He's asked to give a special ride.
Percy soon cheers up again,
When he pulls the Air Show train.





Harold whirls below the clouds,
Cheered on by excited crowds.
Another helicopter swoops,
Harold's startled face soon droops.

"His giant blades are twice my size,"
Percy hears glum Harold's cries.
Percy answers, "Big or small,
We're Really Useful, one and all!"

the end

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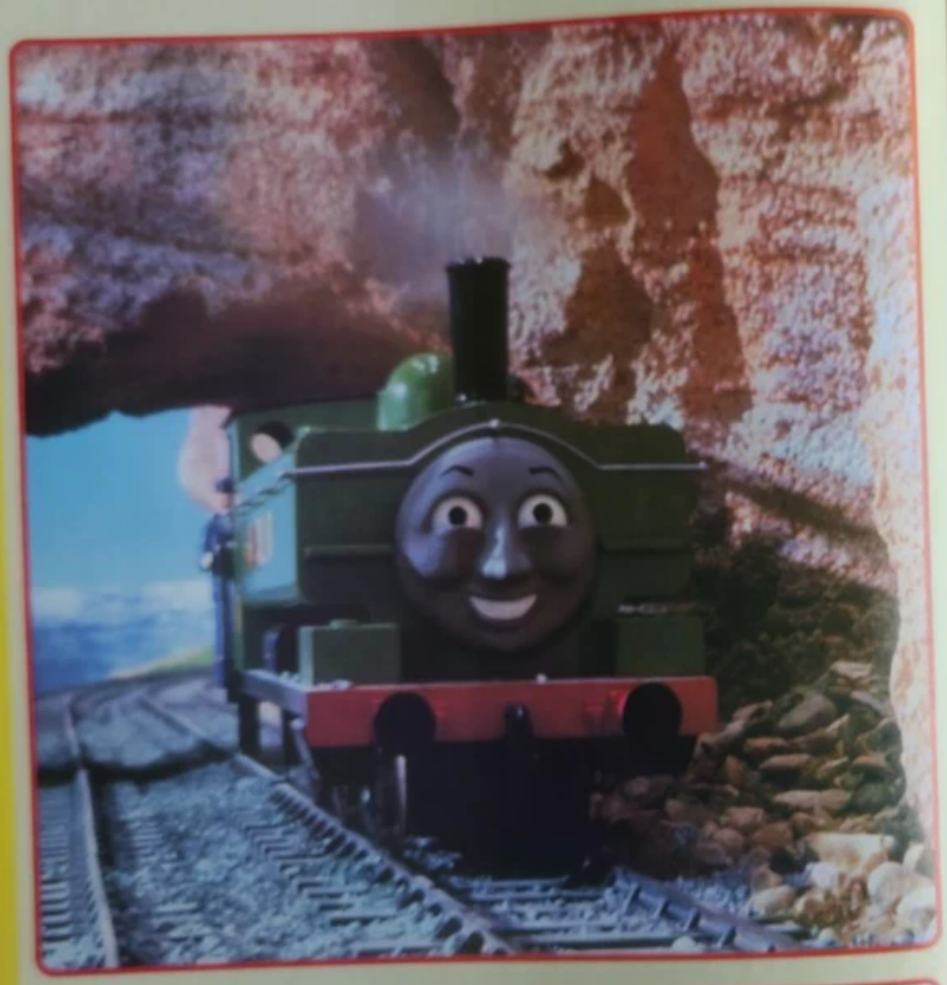

Duck's real name is Montague. He is a cheerful, busy chap. Like Thomas, he's only a small tank engine but, coming as he does from the GWR, he'll stand no nonsense from larger engines who try to order him about. He is designed for both goods and passenger work.

Duck

Win a model of Duck!

10 lucky readers can win a splendid model of Duck from the Racing Champions engine range.

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What colour is Duck?

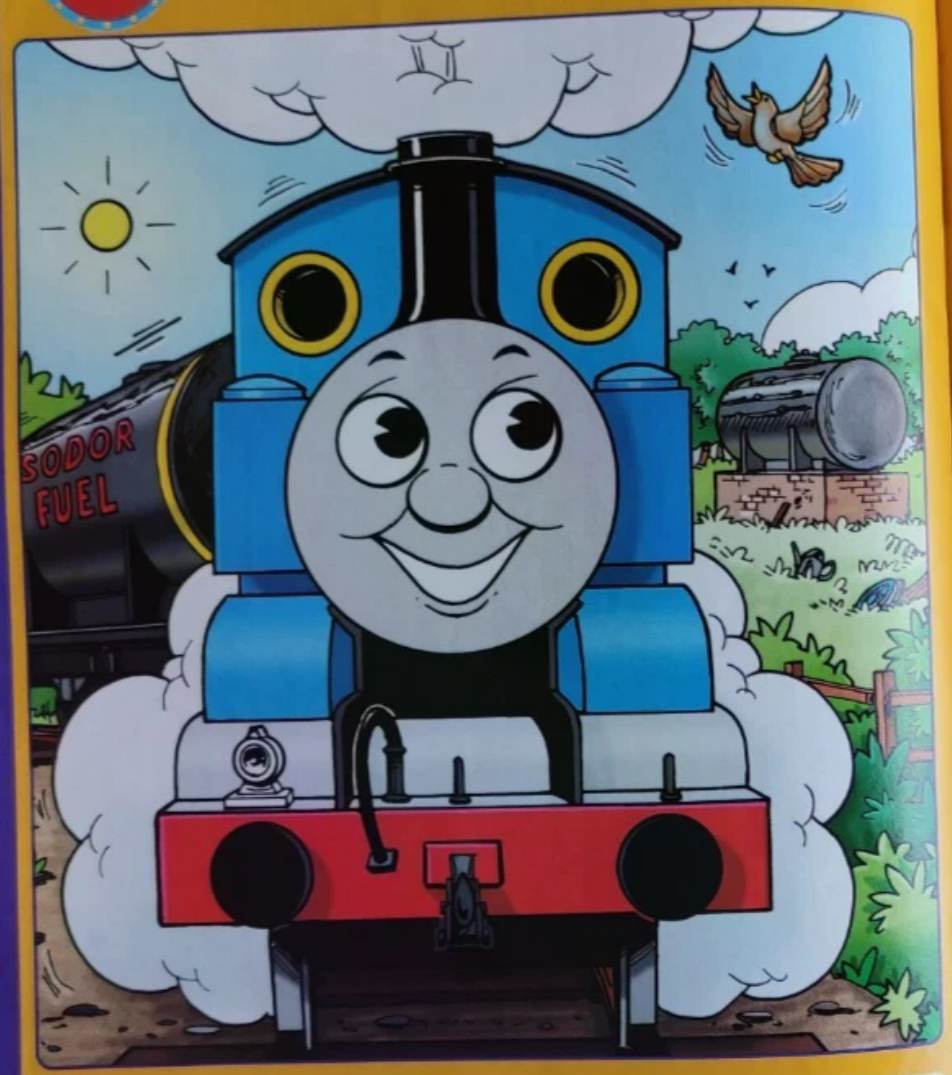
Write your answer on a postcard along with your name and address and send it to: Thomas/353 model competition, Egmont Fleetway Ltd., PO BOX 29087, London, WC1H 9XE.

Closing date: 7th May 2001

This competition is open to all Thomas readers other than employees of participating companies and their families. We cannot accept responsibility for any entries or prizes that are lost in the post. Please obtain permission from a parent or guardian before entering this competition. Entries are limited to one entry per household.

percy's bedtime story

Thomas and the Bluebird!

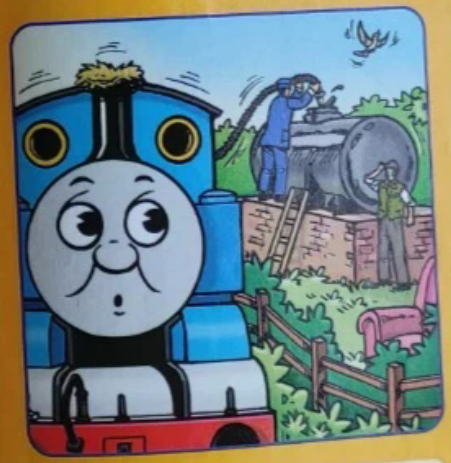


1. Thomas was delivering fuel to a big ramshackle farmyard. "The farmer is to meet us here, so we'd better wait before we fill up his oil tank!" said Driver.

2. "He's probably gone for his lunch," he added, "so, I'll let your fire die down." Just then, Thomas spotted a pretty bird. "It's a bluebird!" Driver exclaimed.

3. While they waited, Thomas and Driver fell sound asleep. The bluebird started to build a nest in Thomas' chimney! Finally, after his dinner, the farmer arrived.

4. "Someone moved in while you were asleep!" called the farmer. Thomas stirred and saw the bluebird with a twig in its beak. "I can't go anywhere, now!" he cried.



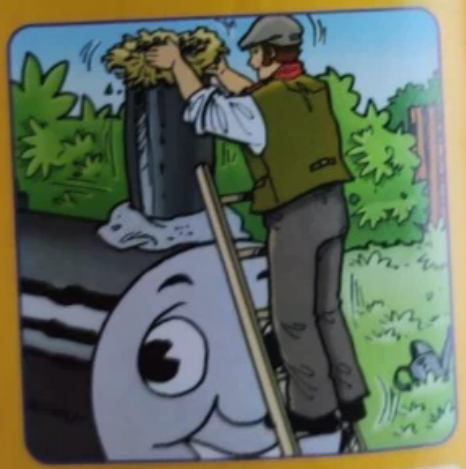
5. While Driver filled the oil tank the bluebird stayed away. Thomas was worried, "What can we do? I can't stay here, but I'd hate to ruin the nest."

6. The farmer laughed, "I have an idea!" He left Driver and found an old chimney pot in the farmyard. "We've got everything here!" he smiled, mixing a drop of concrete.

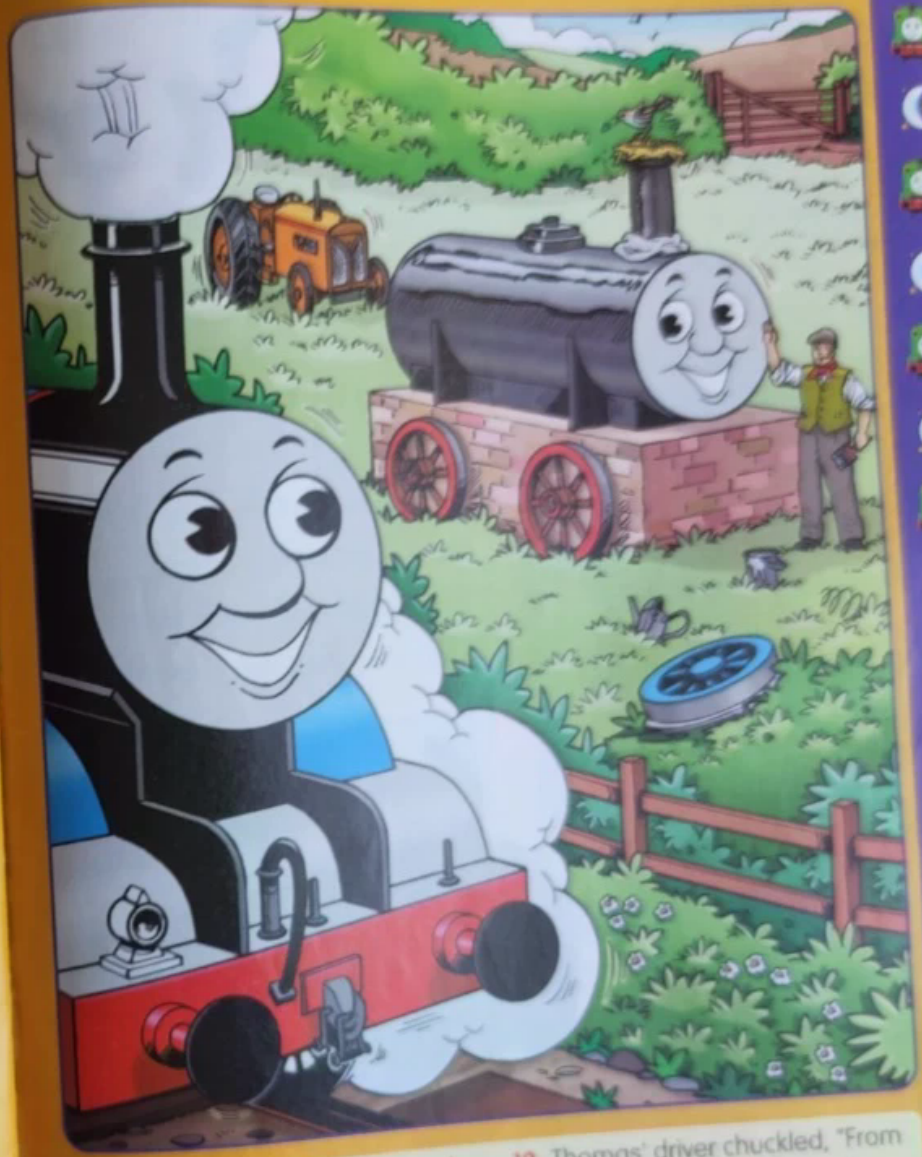
7. The farmer put the chimney on top of his oil tank. "That's starting to look like a steam engine!" peeped Thomas. The farmer grinned, and went back to his yard.

8. He returned with two big old cartwheels and placed them against the brick base of his oil tank. "Your engine needs a friendly face!" exclaimed Driver.

9. The farmer found some paint and a brush and copied Thomas' face onto the end of the tank. Thomas beamed, "You should have been an artist!"



10. Then the farmer picked the nest out of Thomas' chimney and placed it in the chimney pot on his oil tank. "Where's the bird? I hope we haven't scared it off!" he said.



11. Thomas moved off a little and watched as the bluebird reappeared. The bird saw its nest and landed in the chimney pot! Thomas grinned, "It's worked!"

12. Thomas' driver chuckled, "From this distance it looks like a real engine. We'll have to give it a name. What shall we call it?" Thomas whistled, "BLUEBIRD, of course!"

The End

Sodor mail

Please send your letters, pictures and drawings to Sodor Mail, Egmont Fleetway, 25/31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SU

Thomas Token

Ask an adult to cut out the token for you!

Star Poem

Robert Clarke, aged 5, wrote this poem!

Percy is green and always keen,

James is red and likes the shed,

Harold is white and ready for flight,

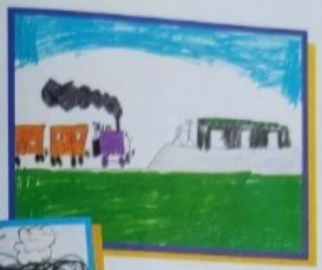
But Thomas is blue, he's my favourite too!

If we print your Star letter or rhyme, you will receive a £10 voucher to spend on any items from the Official Thomas Catalogue, packed with Thomas goodies! To obtain a free copy, call 01403 242727 quoting reference FL.

Thomas Gourgand, aged 3.

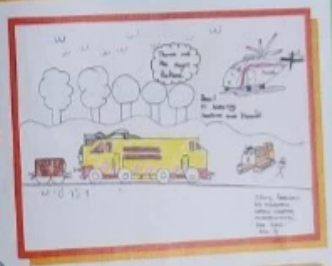
Nicholas and Jodie Lane.

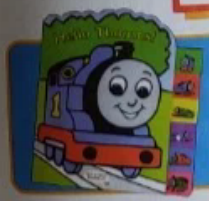
A colourful picture of Lady, by Nico Atkins, aged 6.



Thomas in the countryside, by Giles Deacon, aged 5.

Craig Ferguson, aged 9, has drawn Diesel 10, Harold and Terence.





Anyone who has a drawing printed on this page will win a Hello Thomas book from Egmont Children's Books.

Happy birthday!

To

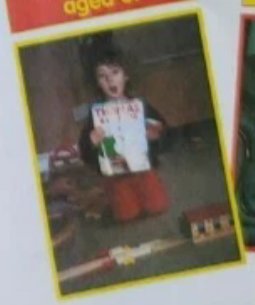
Jordan Witter, aged 7.
Benjamin Malpass, aged 5.
Jack Ferris, aged 4.
George Quinn, aged 4.
Harry Bradley, aged 4.
David and Tony Cogan, aged 6.
Coby Griffin, aged 3.
Luke Malpas, aged 3.
Joseph Swain, aged 3.
Andrew Seagrave, aged 3.
Alex King, aged 3.
Jesamine Bamford, aged 4.
Dale Roberts, aged 5.
Rhys Morton, aged 4.
Lee Crathorne, aged 5.
Alex Spencer, aged 3.
Robert Gresswell, aged 6.
Dillon Addis, aged 3.
Craig Fisher, aged 5.
Joshua Keene, aged 5.
Jamie Johnstone, aged 4.

Remember to send in your details 4 months before your birthday to be sure it will be printed on time.

Ryan Dubbey, aged 3.

Patrick Ryan, aged 3.

Becky Orr, aged 6.



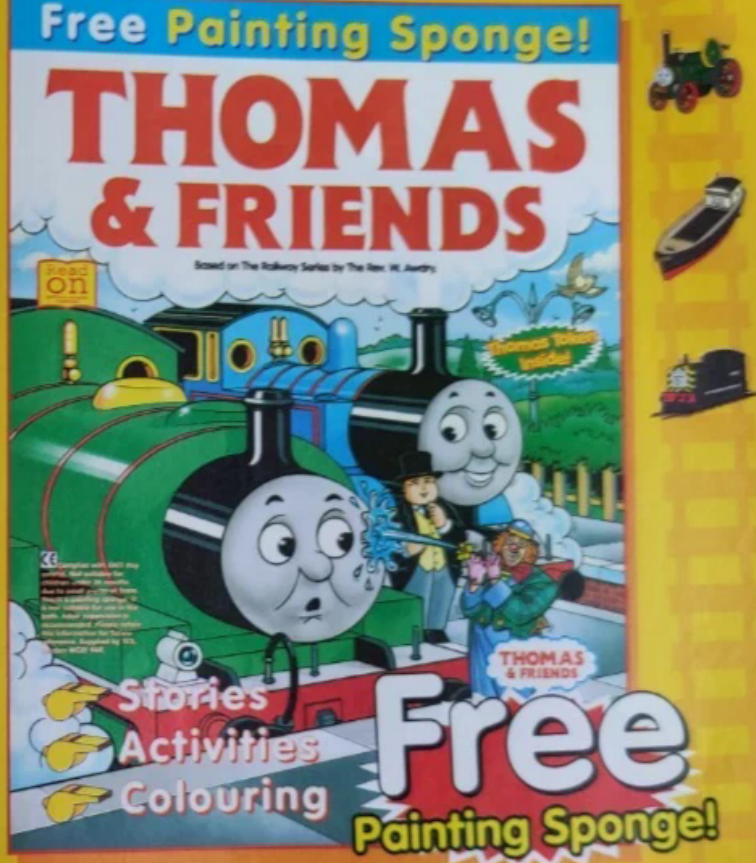
Declan Cannell, aged 3.

Dot to Dot!

Join the dots to complete this Easter picture.

Now use your crayons to colour in the picture!

Next issue!



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